

MEETING OF WENATCHEE ADVISORY COMMITTEE RE: ELECTORAL PROCESS

September 21, 2015

WENATCHEE CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
129 South Chelan, Wenatchee, WA 98801

MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Jean Speidel called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Committee members present were: Susan Albert, Rufus Woods (via phone conference), Mario Cantu, Gustavo Montoya, Mark Urdahl, Carolyn Case, Oralia Banuelos, and Joe Morrison. Absent: Alma Chacon, Karen Rutherford. City staff present: City Attorney Steve Smith, Executive Services Director Allison Williams, Community & Economic Development Director Steve King, and City Clerk Tammy Stanger.

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Tomas Sandoval spoke of the historic significance of the committee and believes the Latino population in the city will go up to 50% in a few years. He applauded the efforts of the community with the work they are doing to allow equal footing.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM AUGUST 25, 2015 MEETING

Motion to approve by Susan Albert. Motion seconded by Carolyn Case. Motion carried (5-0).

(Oralia Banuelos arrived to the meeting at 5:37 p.m.)

IV. REVIEW OF YAKIMA DECISION (City Attorney Steve Smith)

- Federal Voting Rights Act

City Attorney Steve Smith provided a memo summarizing the Yakima case and reviewed it with the committee through a power point presentation which outlined the key points of the case.

(Joe Morrison arrived to the meeting at 6:00 p.m.)

The committee asked questions and further discussion ensued.

Next steps include:

Community & Economic Development Director Steve King will gather census data (eligible voting age population, ethnicity, socioeconomic class by block group).

V. DISCUSS 2015 MEETING SCHEDULE

October 5 – Steve King, Director of Community and Economic Development, re: Wenatchee demographics

October 19 – Elections official re: voter demographics, participation

November 2 – Preliminary decision discussion; preparation for public meeting(s)

November 16 – Public meeting – or hold another date, time?

December 7 – Public meeting – or hold another date, time?

December 21 – Review of work to date, decision re: districting yes/no

The committee discussed the proposed meeting schedule, and possible format of public meetings.

VI. NEXT STEPS

- Assignments

Chair Jean Speidel will work with City staff to plan the public events.

Executive Services Director Allison Williams will research experts available to assist with districting recommendations.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
CITY OF WENATCHEE
Tammy Stanger, City Clerk